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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/885,032	06/20/2001	Keith M. Kotchick	56827USA6A.002	3637

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EXAMINER

UBILES, MARIE C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2642

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/885,032

Applicant(s)

KOTCHICK ET AL.

Examiner

Marie C. Ubiles

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11 and 12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/20/01, 2/21/02, 3/13/02, 8/21/02
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taikai (JP Pub. 02116826) in view of Maatta et al. (US 5,768,370), cited by Applicant.

Regarding claim 1, Taikai discloses a an electronic device (or device 1) comprising a liquid crystal display (or liquid crystal cell), wherein an user can attachably and detachably removed a polarizer (or front end polarizer 20) in order to change the appearance of display information (View Abstract and Constitution); thus Taikai discloses claimed limitations "providing an electronic device comprising a liquid crystal display comprising a display module and a first front polarizer separated from the

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display module and removably attached to the electronic device in a position so that the viewer can view the display module through the first polarizer; removing the first polarizer from the electronic device...".

Taikai lacks the limitation regarding "attaching a second front polarizer to the electronic device in the position, the second front polarizer yielding a different display appearance relative to the first front polarizer."

Maata et al. teaches a system in which a user can removably detach a window for creating new images on a phone, the window has a fourth distinctive color (See Col. 3, lines 54-555 and Col. 4, lines 52-54).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to modify Taikai's system in view of Maata et al. teachings and thus provide a device in which the user can change the appearance of his or her electronic device to meet his or her personal tastes and preferences.

As for claims 2-3, Maata et al. further teaches a removable face plate (See Fig. 2).

As for claim 4, the face plate of Maata et al. includes the first front polarizer (or window)(See Fig. 2).

As for claims 5-8, while Maata et al. only teaches a mobile phone, the Examiner takes Official Notice that combinations of PDA/Handheld computer devices and mobile phone exist in the art. Further, the Examiner believes that a "mobile phone" is, as a matter of fact, a "portable electronic device".

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3. Claims 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taikai (JP Pub. 02116826) in view of Maatta et al. (US 5,768,370) as applied to claims 1-8 above, and further in view of Ching et al. (GB 2307562).

The combination of Taikai and Maatta teaches the system as claimed except for "...the second front polarizer transmits a different color than the first front polarizer" and "...the second front polarizer has a transmission axis that is oriented differently from a transmission axis of the first front polarizer."

Ching et al. teaches a liquid crystal display device for generating different colors, which comprises a liquid crystal cell with a front polarizer and a rear polarizer, wherein the rear polarizer is optically transmissive, reflective and/or transfective. (See Abstract).

It would have been obvious to one skill in the art to modify the combination of Taikai and Maatta, as per the teachings of Ching et al., in order to provide a polarizer that will provide a liquid crystal display with means for generating different colors; and thus in this manner further provide the user with means to modify the appearance of his or her mobile phone and/or other electronic device.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marie C. Ubiles whose telephone number is (703) 305-0684. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Marie C. Ubiles
February 15, 2005.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bing Q. Bui', is written over a horizontal line.

BING Q. BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER